1. (Original) A method of providing a known-good configuration for a computer, comprising:

storing a known-good computer configuration <u>consisting essentially of at least one of hardware configuration parameters and software configuration parameters</u>; and

restoring the known-good configuration via non-interactive user input.

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2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the non-interactive user input is selected from the group consisting of a protected switch, a switch, a hotkey, a key combination, and a special-purpose keyboard key.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the known-good configuration comprises hardware configuration.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the hardware configuration comprises at least one configuration component selected from the group consisting of address space data, IRQ data, DMA data, DMI data, and plug and play hardware configuration data.

5. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the known-good configuration comprises software configuration.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the software configuration comprises at least one configuration component selected from the group consisting of .sys file data, .ini file data, operating system configuration data, Microsoft Windows registry data, and hardware device driver files.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein storing a known-good computer configuration comprises storing an incremental configuration that comprises

those changes made to the configuration since a previous stored configuration.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein storing a known-good configuration comprises storing the configuration on at least one device selected from the group consisting of a hard disk drive, a diskette, a network server, and a hard disk protected area.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of restoring a known-good configuration on a computer, comprising actuating a non-interactive user input that causes software executing on the computer to restore ~~the~~ a known-good configuration consisting essentially of at least one of a hardware configuration data and software configuration data.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the non-interactive user input is selected from the group consisting of a protected switch, a switch, a hotkey, a key combination, and a special-purpose keyboard key.

Claims 11-15 (canceled).

16. (Original) A machine-readable medium with instructions stored thereon, the instructions when executed are operable to cause a computer to:
    store a known-good computer configuration consisting essentially of at least one of hardware configuration data and software configuration data; and
    restore the known-good configuration via non-interactive input.

17. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the non-interactive user input is selected from the group consisting of a protected switch, a switch, a hotkey, a key combination, and a special-purpose keyboard key.

Claims 18-19 (canceled).

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

      receiving an indication that the non-interactive user input has been actuated;

      wherein the restoring the known-good configuration is based on said indication.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the restoring the known-good configuration is ~~performed~~ <u>operable</u> without rebooting the computer.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

      prompting a user to store the known-good computer configuration.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising:

      making a determination that a current configuration is the known-good computer configuration: and

      notifying a user of a basis for making the determination.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, further comprising:

      storing the known-good computer configuration on a hard drive.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the non-interactive user input consists of actuating a single switch or key, or a simultaneous key combination of the computer.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the non-interactive user input does not require user entry of information or interfacing with a graphical representation to function.

27.   (Previously presented)   The machine-readable medium of claim 16, further comprising:

    receive an indication that the non-interactive user input has been actuated;

    wherein the restoring the known-good configuration is based on said indication.

28.   (Previously presented)   The machine-readable medium of claim 27, wherein the known-good configuration is ~~restored~~ <u>operable</u> without rebooting the computer.

29.   (Previously presented)   The machine-readable medium of claim 16, further comprising:

    prompt a user to store the known-good computer configuration.

30.   (Previously presented)   The machine-readable medium of claim 29, further comprising:

    make a determination that a current configuration is the known-good computer configuration; and

    notify a user of a basis for making the determination.

31.   (Previously presented)   The machine-readable medium of claim 30, further comprising;

    store the known-good computer configuration on a hard drive.

32.   (Previously presented)   The machine-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the non-interactive user input consists of an actuation of a single switch or key, or a simultaneous key combination of the computer.

33.   (Previously presented)   The machine-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the non-interactive user input does not require user entry of information or interfacing with a graphical representation to function.

34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the non-interactive user input consists of an actuation of a single switch or key, or simultaneous key combination of the computer.

35. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the known-good configuration is ~~restored~~ <u>operable</u> without rebooting the computer.

36. (Previously presented) A method of providing an updated known-good configuration for a computer, comprising:

determining an updated combination configuration of software and hardware is a known-good configuration for the computer;

storing the determined known-good updated combination configuration to a known-good data storage device;

receiving a non-interactive user input for restoration of the computer to a known-good combination configuration; and

restoring the known-good updated combination configuration upon reception of the non-interactive user input.

37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 36, wherein restoration of the known-good updated combination configuration is restored without rebooting the computer.

38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising: prompting a user to store the determined known-good updated combination configuration.

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39. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 36, wherein the non-interactive user input is at least one of a single switch, a key, and a simultaneous key combination.

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40. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 39, where the non interactive user input does not require user entry of information or interface with a graphical user interface.

41. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 36, wherein a known-good storage device is a hard drive.

42. (New)   The method of claim 36, wherein determining a known good configuration exists is based on least one of an occurrence of a specific number of boot cycles, upon execution of a specific number of applications executed, upon a time duration, on execution of a specific number of applications.

43. (New)   The method of claim 36, wherein storing the determined known-good configuration comprises storing an incremental configuration that comprises those change made to the configuration since a previous known-good configuration.

44. (New)   The method of claim 36, wherein the known-good configuration is stored in a partitioned portion of the known-good data storage device.

45. (New)   The method of claim 36, wherein the known-good configuration is stored contiguously with any non-configuration data on the known-good storage device.

46. (New)   The method of claim 36, wherein known-good configuration data is selected from the group consisting of .sys file data, .ini file data, operating system

configuration file data, Microsoft Windows registry data, and hardware device driver files.

47. (New)   The method of claim 36, wherein known good configuration data is selected from the group consisting of address space data, IRQ data, DMA data, DMI data, and plug and play hardware configuration data.

48. (New)   The method of claim 1, wherein storing a known-good configuration comprises storing the known-good configuration contiguously with any data included on a known-good storage device.

49. (New)   The method of claim 1, wherein storing a known-good configuration is stored on a non-partitioned storage device.